

# IHCA Conference

## 8/1/07

### MR/DD Tract

### Regulation and Compliance Review



# Learning Objectives

- Staff development activities/exercises to share with your teams which were designed to increase staff's sensitivity to disabilities.

# Disability Awareness



# Activity #1

- Divide into groups of 4 – 5 people. ONE person in your group will receive a card with a sentence written on it. That person has to relay the sentence to the rest of your group WITHOUT WRITING, SPEAKING, DRAWING, OR USING ANY LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET.
- You will have approximately 5 minutes to complete the activity.

# Activity #1

**Purpose:** The purpose of this activity is to illustrate the frustrations faced by people who cannot verbally communicate. It is often difficult to interpret or understand what people with limited receptive and expressive language are trying to communicate.

# Activity #1

As a group, answer the following questions:

- 1). Was it difficult to communicate using this method?
- 2). What were the difficulties?
- 3). What would have helped?

# Activity #2

**Purpose:** The purpose of this activity is to demonstrate the difficulties associated with group participation which are often encountered by individuals with intellectual disabilities. People with an intellectual disability can often display inappropriate behavior when interacting with other members of the community, such as invading others personal space.

# Activity #2

- For this activity, divide into groups with NO MORE THAN FOUR people. The people in your group should be unknown to you (people you do not work with every day).
- As a group, form a STANDING SQUARE by placing your arms around the person to your left and right.
- As a standing square, navigate all the way around the OUTSIDE of the room. You have approximately 10 minutes to complete the activity.



# Activity #2

As a group, answer the following questions:

- 1). What were the difficulties you encountered?
- 2). Did you feel uncomfortable by the invasion of your personal space?
- 3). How would your group cope if one of the members deliberately worked against the rest of the group?